
From: Christina Davey [mailto:christina.davey@devon.gov.uk] **Sent:** 25 August 2015 10:21
To: townclerk@ivybridge.gov.uk
Subject: Devon County Council response to draft version of Neighbourhood Plan

Dear Lesley,

Thank you for consulting Devon County Council on the draft version of the Ivybridge Neighbourhood Plan. Please accept our apologies for the delay in getting this response to you.

As a main infrastructure provider the County Council has a key role in ensuring development proposals come forward in a sustainable manner and we welcome the opportunity to be involved in the ongoing production of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Devon County Council has concerns about the transport solutions suggested in the Neighbourhood Plan, including improved junction arrangements at the A38, provision of a major new junction onto the A38 and a new link road to the south of the town. This view was expressed by Devon County Council in the development of the Ivybridge DPD and the County Council maintains the view that this infrastructure is unaffordable and undeliverable. The County Council has recently prepared a transport infrastructure plan which sets out the transportation priorities across the county to 2030 in the context of changes to the way funding is allocated to local authorities. As of 2015, and for the foreseeable future, Devon County Council receives substantially reduced Local Transport Plan funding and instead needs to seek funding for major infrastructure through the Growth Deal process, which is managed by the Local Enterprise Partnership. Within this new financial landscape there is little scope for securing external funding (either through Growth Deal or development) to deliver major transport schemes such as the improvements to the A38 junctions outlined in the Draft Neighbourhood Plan. The road system incorporated to the proposed growth to the east of the town, and delivered as part of the development, will provide some relief of Exeter Road and will enable improved walking and cycling links through the town, which can potentially be secured through the planning process. Where walking and cycling plans are developed by the community, with match funding secured and land assembled, there may be scope for some limited LTP funds to be allocated to support delivery of such schemes. There are potential small scale, traffic management measures that can be investigated to improve air quality on Western Road and we would be happy to meet with you to discuss transport and movement issues in more detail in the ongoing development of the Neighbourhood Plan.

We note the community objectives linked to promoting the library as a key place for learning and community groups in addition to improved youth provision within the town. The County Council can support the town council in achieving these objectives by providing advice and guidance on these matters.

Finally, the County Council supports part d of Policy INP5: measures to support increased dual use of school facilities. We are currently working with the community to secure funding for additional all weather training pitches. It is envisaged that these additional pitches will be dual use, which will assist in the achievement Policy INP5.

I hope these comments are useful in the future development of the Plan. I understand that you have requested a meeting to discuss the key issues. We would of course be happy to attend such a meeting. If you would like to suggest some potential dates I can check officer availability.

Kind regards,

Christina

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Please note my working days are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday